

## ***Remarks***

### ***I. Status of the Claims***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claim 1 is pending in the application. Claims 2-30 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

### ***II. Amendment to the Specification***

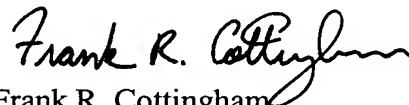
Applicants have amended the paragraph captioned "Cross Reference to Related Applications" to specify that the present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/895,202, filed July 2, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/790,820, filed January 30, 1997. The amendment therefore introduces no new matter.

**III. Conclusion**

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for immediate examination. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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